

Bournes Green Infant School

Travel Plan

2016

Introduction

To reduce traffic congestion around our schools will make travelling to school safer and healthier for everyone in our schools and the wider community.

We are also very aware of the Government's agenda to conserve energy and reduce pollutants in the air by cutting car travel. Promoting daily exercise will also help to combat obesity within society.

The travel plan fits in with our school ethos because we believe that the health and well-being of our pupils and staff is of paramount importance.

School Information

The School's catchment area includes two large housing estates, Bishopsteighton to the east and Willingale to the west. These areas are separated from the central catchment area by two main roads, running North/South; Maplin Way North to the East and Thorpe Hall Avenue to the West.. The southern boundary is formed by the railway, the northern boundary is Bournes Green Chase.

The pupil population is fairly consistent and there are no plans for expansion of numbers.

Aims and Objectives

Aim:

- To continue to reduce traffic congestion around our schools.
- To make travelling to school safer and healthier for everyone in our schools and the wider community.

Objectives:

1. To continue to educate everyone in our community about the benefits of walking and cycling.
2. To promote and encourage more walking and cycling.
3. To identify possible modifications within our school grounds that will ease the congestion and make walking and cycling safer and more pleasurable experiences.
4. To identify where these issues are or could be highlighted within our school curriculum.

Problems

- The schools' catchment area borders on the north by Bournes Green Chase and on the south by the railway is divided by two major highways namely Maplin Way North on the east and Thorpe Hall Avenue on the west separating the schools from the Bishopsteighton and Willingale areas where many pupils reside. These roads are difficult to cross except for a single crossing site in Maplin Way North, and a crossing at the end of Thorpe Hall Avenue.

- A proportion of our pupils come from outside the catchment area.
- The school experiences difficult and occasionally chaotic and dangerous conditions outside the main entrances in Burlescoombe Road, with a combination of pedestrians, cyclists, and cars all crowded into a relatively small area putting all users at risk. There are very narrow time windows in the morning and the afternoon for all this activity to take place.
- We have several parents who have blue disabled badges.
- We are aware that changing funding priorities at local and national level mean that there is unlikely in the immediate future to be more funding for highway modifications that will ease the congestion and make walking and cycling safer and more pleasurable experiences.

Solutions

Outside the main school entrances

- Encourage parking and dropping off around the start and end of the school day to be away from this area outside and between the school gates.
- Continue to promote this at induction meetings and on walk to school weeks etc.
- Invite Southend on Sea Road Safety Team in to speak to each class about road safety and walking to school.

Walking/Scooting/Cycling

- Continue to promote walking, scooting or cycling to school. This will be included within our induction process for new parents.
- Continue to promote health benefits of walking.
- Review provision of storage shelter for cycles, scooters and prams.

Monitoring and evaluation

The plan will be monitored and reviewed as part of our Policy and Procedure Timetable.

Revised Spring 2016